

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USDEL SECRETARY PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 226289 TOSEC 270040

STADIS////////////////////////////////////

EXDIS

FOLLOWING REPEAT USUN 3686 ACTION SECSTATE DATED 13 SEP 76.

QTE: C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 3686

STADIS

EXDIS

FROM AMB. LEARSON FOR THE SECRETARY

FROM US LOSDEL

E.O. 11652: XGDS-3

TAGS: PLOS

SUBJECT: LOS: DAILY REPORT FOR THE SECRETARY

1. COMMITTEE I: ON FRIDAY, C-I ENTERED FINAL STAGE
OF DEBATE ON DELEGATION'S GENERAL ASSESSMENT OF THE WORK
AT THIS SESSION. TONE OF DEBATE WAS THE SAME AS IT WAS
ON THURSDAY. THE US TOOK THE OPPORTUNITY: (A) TO INDICATE
THAT ITS COUNCIL ARTICLE WAS BEING CIRCULATED ON PRIVATE
BASIS TO ALL DELEGATIONS; (B) TO SUMMARIZE FOR THE
RECORD THE SECRETARY'S PROPOSALS, BUT WITHOUT ANY DETAILED
ELABORATION, INDICATING THAT THIS WOULD COME IN TIME
WHEN THE GROUP OF 77 WAS PREPARED TO ACKNOWLEDGE THE
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PARALLEL SYSTEM WITH GUARANTEED ACCESS FOR STATES AND

PRIVATE COMPANIES; (C) TO IMPLY THAT THE SESSION WAS ENCOURAGING FOR TWO REASONS. FIRST, IT WAS ENCOURAGING BECAUSE IN SPITE OF THE DESIRE OF MANY COUNTRIES TO BRING THE LAW OF THE SEA CONFERENCE TO A SPEEDY CONCLUSION, IT WAS CLEAR THAT THE INDUSTRIALIZED COUNTRIES, INCLUDING THE U.S., WERE WILLING TO LET THIS SESSION PASS RATHER THAN MAKE FURTHER IMPORTANT CONCESSIONS. THIS, IT WAS SAID, SHOULD BE CONVINCING EVIDENCE THAT AT THE NEXT SESSION, WE WOULD NEED TO SEE FLEXIBILITY FOR THE GROUP OF 77 IN ORDER TO CONCLUDE OUR WORK. SECOND, IT WAS CLEAR THAT EXTREME POSITIONS WERE OUTNUMBERED AND THAT, IF THE COMMITTEE WOULD ADOPT APPROPRIATE PROCEDURES INCLUDING THE POSSIBILITY OF VOTING, IT MIGHT BE POSSIBLE TO REACH CONSENSUS DECISIONS EARLY IN THE NEXT SESSION ON BROAD POLICY QUESTIONS, THUS LEAVING AMPLE TIME TO ELABORATE THE REMAINING TREATY ARTICLES.

2. GENERAL REACTIONS TO THE US STATEMENT APPEAR TO BE FAVORABLE BASED ON COMMENTS HEARD DURING THE COURSE OF FRIDAY. A FEW REMAINING SPEAKERS WILL CONTINUE THE GENERAL ASSESSMENT DEBATE TOMORROW. THE C-I CHAIRMAN REPORT DELIVERED AT THE GENERAL COMMITTEE TODAY PICKED-UP MOST OF THE POINTS MADE BY THE US ON FRIDAY, AND THIS MAY BE A GOOD SIGN THAT THE FINAL CHAIRMEN'S REPORT ON FRIDAY WILL BE REASONABLY SYMPATHETIC TO OUR OBJECTIVES AT THIS SESSION AND OUR EXPECTATIONS FOR THE NEXT SESSION.

3. COMMITTEE II: COMMITTEE II CONCLUDED DEBATE ON MISCELLANEOUS ARTICLES NOT PREVIOUSLY DISCUSSED IN CONSULTING GROUPS. THE CHAIR MADE IT CLEAR THAT HE INTENDED NO FURTHER WORK ON THESE ISSUES, BUT ENCOURAGED INTERESTED STATES TO CONTINUE PRIVATE CONSULTATIONS. THE CHAIR SCHEDULED NO FURTHER SESSIONS, ALTHOUGH HE HAS NOT YET SUBMITTED HIS FINAL REPORT TO THE COMMITTEE. IN ADDITION, ELEVEN SPEAKERS REMAIN ON THE LIST FOR THE STRAITS NEGOTIATING GROUP, AND A REQUEST FOR MORE TIME FOR THE SMALL GROUP ON THE ECONOMIC ZONE STILL STANDS. PRESUMABLE THE CHAIRMAN IS PREPARING THE FINAL REPORT, AND ITS CONTENT WILL BE CRITICAL FOR THE U.S.
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4. COMMITTEE III: CHAIRMAN YANKOV INTRODUCED HIS COMPROMISE PROPOSAL ON SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH INTO FORMAL RECORDS OF COMMITTEE III IN SPITE OF U.S. REJECTION OF IT. CHAIRMAN'S COMPROMISE IS WORSE THAN RSNT IN MOVING CLOSER TO UNQUALIFIED CONSENT. AUSTRALIA INTRODUCED ITS COMPROMISE AND SAID IT WOULD CONSULT FURTHER AS TO EXTENT OF ITS ACCEPTABILITY.

5. DISPUTE SETTLEMENT: SEVERAL MEMBERS OF THE G-77
URGED DELETION OF SPECIAL PROCEDURES FOR DISPUTE SETTLEMENT,
WHICH ARE SUPPORTED BY THE SOVIET BLOC. THE USSR RE-
SPONDED THAT IT COULD ONLY ACCEPT COMPULSORY DISPUTE
SETTLEMENT IF THE SPECIAL PROCEDURES WERE RETAINED, AND
POLAND SUBMITTED AMENDMENTS DESIGNED TO MEET TRIBUNAL
CRITICISMS.
SHERER. UNQTE: ROBINSON

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